



NEWS RELEASE

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Homeless Man Charged With Biting Off Coffee Shop Owner's Fingertip

A 31-year-old transient was charged today with biting off the fingertip of the owner of a Venice coffee house, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jonathan Shain Lemmons (dob 3/2/84) faces one felony count each of criminal threats and mayhem in case SA090038.

Lemmons pleaded not guilty to the charges and is scheduled to return on April 20 to Department 31 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch.

On March 21, the victim asked Lemmons to leave The Cow's End Café, prosecutors said. The defendant then allegedly threatened and assaulted the owner, biting off a portion of his finger, prosecutors added.

The recommended bail is \$150,000. If convicted as charged, Lemmons faces a possible maximum sentence of more than eight years in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.